

**Weekly Status & Information Report:**  
**Week of February 7, 2005**

1. **Lt. Governor's Visit (Wards 5 & 6):** On Monday, Feb. 14, 10-11 a.m. at the Long Branch Community Center, Lt. Gov. Michael Steele will visit and recognize the Maryland International Corridor CSAFE program, along with other state officials. He will be briefed on the crime prevention strategies underway in the area which includes parts of Ward 5 & 6. *(Police)*
2. **Energy Aggregation Legislation Press Conference:** A press event to support legislation that would permit Maryland municipalities to purchase electricity for their residents at group rates will be held at Takoma Park City Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 10 am. Municipal representatives from cities in Montgomery and Prince George's County will be present. Several Mayors and others will then go to Annapolis to testify in favor of this legislation. For more information, contact Suzanne Ludlow at 301-891-7229 or [SuzanneL@takomagov.org](mailto:SuzanneL@takomagov.org). Councilmember and resident presence at the press event is encouraged! *(Community & Government Liaison)*
3. **Gateway Wayfinding Sign System (City Wide):** The revised design proposal for the primary gateway signs, secondary gateway signs, historic district signs, area identification signs, pedestrian kiosk, historic markers, interpretive panels and garden markers were presented to the Historic Preservation Commission on Wednesday, February 9. While no consensus was reached, the Commission was in general agreement that the revisions were appropriate. The HPC indicated that the City should return for a HAWP once the design has been finalized and the signs are ready to be installed as they wish to see exactly where the signs are to be located and its exact siting. *(Housing and Community Development)*
4. **Carroll Avenue Streetscape Sidewalk Art Project (Ward 1):** Two of the sidewalk art proposals received by the Arts and Humanities Commission (AHC) were made available for public review. The comments received at the Farmers Market on Sunday and the municipal building this past week, as well as those submitted via the City's web site are being consolidated and will be considered by the AHC on Tuesday. The recommendations of the AHC are to be presented to the Council for approval on February 22. *(Housing and Community Development)*
5. **Community Legacy Application (City Wide):** The City was notified this week that its request for Community Legacy funds for the proposed capacity building effort had not been approved. According to the Department of Housing and Community Development, 58 applications requesting over \$17 million for 104 projects had been received. A total of \$5.2 million was available. *(Housing and Community Development)*

6. **Grants Training:** HCD staff member Ivy Thompson attended a two day grant writing workshop offered by Grant Writing USA, in partnership with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. *(Housing and Community Development)*

7. **East Hampshire Center - February 24 Hearing (Ward 3):** As noted in past updates, the Montgomery County Planning Board voted in favor of the reconsideration request that had been made by the City for this project. The action voided the preliminary plan extension that had been granted to Maisel-Hollins Development Company for the construction of a self storage facility at the corner of New Hampshire and Eastern Avenues. The Planning Board will has scheduled a new hearing to consider the developer's request for a preliminary plan extension. The hearing will be held on Thursday, February 24. HCD staff continues to work with the Mayor, Councilmember Williams, and residents to address the concerns raised by the Pinecrest neighborhood. *(Housing and Community Development)*

8. **Enforcement Through LIDAR (All Wards):** During day shift this week, Squads 1 and 3 conducted speed enforcement using Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) on New Hampshire, Carroll, Flower, University and Piney Branch. Observation details were also conducted on Maple, on Flower and at 4th and Cockerille, in addition to regular patrol enforcement of traffic. More than 100 stops resulted in 82 citations. Two of the new officers were trained in LIDAR speed enforcement. *(Police)*

9. **Suspects in Custody (Ward 6):** On Friday, Feb 4, detectives took custody of the third suspect in the August 2001 New Hampshire Avenue homicide of Kennes Falconer. The suspect, Perry L. Brown of no fixed address, was located in a traffic stop by Hyattsville City Police and was charged with accessory after the fact. No further arrests are expected. One suspect was arrested six days after the crime and the other six months after it. They pled guilty and are serving 20-25 years. *(Police)*

10. **Crime Blotter (Ward 1):** An armed robbery was reported last week on Park Avenue with no physical injury and some property recovered. *(Police)*

11. **Taste of Takoma (Ward 5):** Preliminary planning begun for the Taste of Takoma in April. *(Police)*

12. **Officer Back On Duty (Ward 1):** Cpl. Collington has been approved for return to full duty after elective surgery (V2 officer). *(Police)*

13. **Honor Guards:** Two officers assisted in an honor detail at Monday's funeral of Dr. Manuel Vasquez, vice president for Bilingual Ministries for the General Conference of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. *(Police)*

14. **Uniform Crime Reporting:** Uniform Crime Reporting (URC) statistics for 4th quarter is attached. *(Police)*
15. **Y.E.S. League Basketball:** The Winter Y.E.S. League basketball playoffs begin Tuesday, February 15, at 7 pm, and end with the Varsity championship game on Friday, February 18, at 7 pm. All games are at Takoma Park Middle School. Friday's game will be televised by Takoma Cable TV. It's going to be a really big show. *(Recreation)*
16. **Afternoon Addition:** The Afternoon Addition started a rotation of art classes this week. Local artist Ame Perlman is on board to share her creative projects with the kids until the end of May. They made Valentines out of several types of media and are excited to share them with their favorite people. *(Recreation)*
17. **Babysitting Classes:** The Recreation Department's Babysitting class co-sponsored with the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department started last Monday, February 4th at the Fire House. This class focuses on CPR, Fire Safety, First Aid, Infant and Child Care and Personal Safety. The session was filled to capacity with 16 students. A spring class is currently being planned to accommodate those who are currently on a waiting list. *(Recreation)*
18. **Jazz Band Brawl:** City TV staff will be videotaping the annual Jazz Band Brawl at Takoma Station on Sunday Feb. 13 between 2-6 pm. This event is organized by the Takoma JazzFest folks as a fundraiser and to determine the Headline Act for the JazzFest to be held in June. *(CityTV)*
19. **Takoma Park in the News:** City TV will also be covering the CSAFE Event on Monday, Feb. 14th with Lt. Gov. Steele, and the Press Event on Municipal Energy Aggregation to be held Tuesday Feb. 15th. *(CityTV)*
20. **Farewell to a Great Employee:** Regrettably, Communications Assistant Elizabeth Mosely has accepted a position with UMBC and will be leaving City employment as of Feb. 22. *(CityTV)*